DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 361 976 EC 302 447

TITLE	Administrative Report of the National Commission Persons with Disabilities for the Years 1987-1992 = Rapport ta' Hidma Tal-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Dizabilita Ghas-Snin 1987-1992.
INSTITUTION	Malta National Commission Persons with Disabilities, Santa Venera.
PUB DATE	[93]
NOTE	51p.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Multilingual/Bilingual Materials (171)
LANGUAGE	English; Maltese
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Accessibility (for Disabled); *Advisory Committees; Community Programs; *Disabilities; Elementary Secondary Education; Financial Support; Foreign Countries; *Government Role; International Cooperation; Legislation; *National Programs; Participative Decision Making; *Public Policy; *Rehabilitation
IDENTIFIERS	*Malta

ABSTRACT

This report, in both English and Maltese, describes the mission and activities, from 1987 through 1992, of Malta's National Commission Persons with Disabilities. An introduction lists Commission aims, such as coordinating government and voluntary programs and activities serving people with disabilities and their families. The second section describes the Commission's Action Plan, noting Commission activities concerning: Commission subcommittees, the national register for persons with disabilities, participation of persons with disabilities in decision making, prevention of disability, rehabilitation, legislation, physical environment accessibility, social security and financial income, education and training, employment, recreation, community action, staff training, and public information. The third section reports on activities in the realm of international action. These include: the United Nations Disability Statistics Workshop; Maltese participation in international forums, seminars, and conferences; and international aid to the Commission. (DB)

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National Commission on Persons with Disabilities

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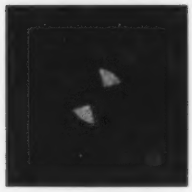

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES FOR THE YEARS 1987-1992

1.0 INTRODUCTION

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1.1 The National Commission Persons with Disabilities was founded on the 3rd November 1987. Its first meeting was held at the Office of the Prime Minister in the presence of the Prime Minister himself and the Minister for Social Policy. The foundation of the Commission and the goals it aimed to reach were previously announced by the Minister of Social Policy in a Parliamentary Statement.

1.2 The Minister for Social Policy (now Minister for Home Affairs and Social Development) nominated the members of the Commission who represent the principal government departments, namely: Social Housing, the Elderly and Special Needs, Social and Family Assistance, Education, Health, Labour, Social Services, and Gozo; representatives of voluntary bodies of persons with disabilities together with a small number of individuals chosen because of their personal involvement in this field.

1.3 Presently four members with physical disabilities and six parents of persons with disabilities serve on the Commission.

1.4 The aims of the Commission are:

(a) to ensure that the Government Programme concerning the affairs and interests of persons with disabilities, their families and relative voluntary bodies is implemented.

(b) to ensure the co-ordination of work being carried out by the Departments concerned, in effecting every measure described in the Government's Programme, or other measures which the Commission proposes from time to time.

(c) to keep direct and continuous contact with voluntary bodies, especially through the Federation of Voluntary Organisations for the Handicapped, and also with other groups or individuals as the need arises.

(d) to identify the needs of persons with disabilities and voluntary bodies concerned and to take the necessary measures deemed fit in the circumstances to satisfy these needs as much as possible.

(e) to monitor the provision of centralized services required in fulfilling the functions of the Commission.

1.5 The daily tasks of the Commission are managed by a Secretariat.

2.0 ACTION PLAN

2.0 ACTION PLAN

2.1.1 The Commission's course of action was always in line with the recommendations and proposals found in the United Nations WORLD PROGRAMME OF ACTION CONCERNING DISABLED PERSONS published in 1983 at the beginning of the decade dedicated to persons with disabilities. In fact, this report has been drawn on the same lines as indicated in this programme.

2.1.2 Sub-Committees

(i) From the very start the Commission established 10 sub-committees in order to put forward proposals and recommendations on a local level to implement this World Programme. These sub-committees were as follows:

(a) Preventive Measures
(b) Health Services - Maternity and Pediatrics
(c) Health Services - Adults
(d) Education
(e) Vocational Services
(f) Community Services
(g) Legislation
(h) Media
(i) Voluntary Bodies
(j) Services in Gozo

(ii) The Commission adopted comprehensive reports prepared and drawn by the sub-committees for Health Services - Maternity and Pediatrics, Education, Vocational Services and Voluntary Bodies. These were then discussed with the authorities concerned.

(iii) The Commission is to publish the National Policy Document on Special Education in Malta. This Document is going to be published in the Maltese and English Language and recorded on audio tapes.

(iv) Although the other sub-committees did not present a final report, they have worked hard and offered various recommendations. The Commission accepted and discussed these with the authorities concerned.

2.1.3 National Register for Persons with Disabilities

(i) From its infancy, the Commission felt it needed to have reliable statistics showing the number of persons with disabilities together with their functional needs and those of their families. These statistics can be compiled if a National Register for Persons with Disabilities exists.

(ii) The Commission printed a questionnaire, in the Maltese and English Language, to be filled by every person with a disability.

(iii) The Commission invited all Maltese and Gozitans to participate in this survey by mailing two letters in every Maltese and Gozitan household to be filled by every person with a disability. The Commission presented three options for filling this questionnaire:

(a) by the concerned individual himself and sent by post
(b) by a Commission Official stationed in a central place
(c) by a Commission Official visiting the home of the person concerned.

(iv) A tailor made computer programme was devised to store this information. Non confidential data is being stored by persons with a physical disability at the Rehabilitation Centre at Kordin. Personal data is being stored by Commission officials to ensure the utmost confidentiality.

(v) At the end of 1992, the position of this survey was as follows:

Persons with disabilities who answered the questionnaire	2678
Persons with disabilities who requested a questionnaire but have not yet answered it	821
Persons with a disability in institutions who have yet to fill in the questionnaire	1200 (circa)
Number of questionnaires stored in the computer	2150

(vi) All the information is planned to be compiled by 1993.

2.2.1 Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Decision-making.

It is the Commission's belief that persons with disabilities and their families (where necessary) should be the principal protagonists in the decision-making process regarding them. With this aim in mind the Commission introduced the following measures:

(i) There are five representatives of the Federation of Voluntary Organizations for the Handicapped who serve on the National Commission Persons with Disability. The President of this Federation himself is on the Commission's Executive Board.

(ii) Four persons with physical disabilities and six parents of children with disabilities are on the Commission.

(iii) The Commission's Secretariat employs seven persons with disabilities and two parents of children with disability who work on all levels of the Secretariat's functions.

(iv) The Commission recommended competent persons with disabilities or parents of persons with disabilities to become members of various boards such as:

- the Chairman of the HD13 Board appointed by the Social Housing Department,
- the Chairman of the Social Fund for Special Needs appointed by the Commission itself,

- the Traffic Control Board appointed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Social Development,
- the Commission's representative on the board of directors of the Foundation for Respite Care Services,
- the Commission's representative on the Board of Trustees of the Eden Foundation,
- the Advisory Board of the Planning Authority appointed by the Ministry of the Environment,
- various boards to select personnel to work in this field amongst which were the Director and staff of the Foundation for Respite Care Services, the Eden Foundation staff and Care Workers of the Department of Social and Family Welfare.

(v) parents and persons with disabilities were asked to speak on panels in public and via other means of communication.

(vi) the Commission worked hand in hand with various voluntary bodies to provide services for people with disabilities and their families or organize activities to stimulate public awareness in this sector. To mention a few there were:

- the Foundation for Respite Care Services together with the Parents' Society of Handicapped Children
- the opening of Dar il-Wens together with the Association of Handicapped Youth
- the Computer Lab at the Rehabilitation Centre, Corradino, together with another similar lab planned with the Muscular Dystrophy Group
- Persons with Disabilities Week annually held by the Federation of Voluntary Organizations for the Handicapped with the cooperation of the Commission
- the seminar 'Lejn il-Futur' organized in conjunction with the Parents' Society of Handicapped Children
- the publication, 'Ghin Ruhek' together with Caritas (Malta)
- the transportation of persons with disabilities to activities organized by 'Bieb Miftuh'.

2.2.2 Prevention of Impairment, Disability and Handicap

Various Government organizations are giving their share in the prevention of impairment, disability and handicap. First and foremost, there is the Health Education Unit and the Nutrition Unit of the Health Department with which the Commission had and still has very strong ties.

With regards prevention the Commission worked hard to implement various measures amongst which are:

(i) The Child Development Advisory Unit

From its infancy the Commission laboured to set up the Child Development Advisory Unit by the Health Department together with the active participation of other departments primarily those of Education and Social and Family Assistance. The principle aim of this unit is for a multi-disciplinary team to undertake a comprehensive assessment of children with disability as early as possible, to plan an individual programme and to advise the professionals concerned

including the parents to implement this programme. At present the premises for this unit is under construction. The Commission feels very disappointed that this important and essential service has not started operating yet.

(ii) the introduction by the Health Department of the immunization against Mumps, Measles and Rubella commonly known as the MMR vaccine which is to be given to all babies. The ultimate aim is to eradicate completely these three diseases from amongst children.

(iii) the introduction by the Health Department of a booklet recording concise medical history of children and which is given to all parents. Hence, parents not only have their children medical record but can closely monitor their development and recognize problems from the start.

(iv) every year before the winter season persons with disabilities who attend special schools and adult day centres are inoculated against influenza.

2.2.3 Rehabilitation

(i) The Foundation for Respite Care Services

In July 1991, the Commission and the Parents Society of Handicapped Children together have set up this Foundation. In fact, the Board of Directors of this foundation is made up of three members appointed by the Commission, three members appointed by the Parents Society of Handicapped Children and another three from the Community. The Government finances the major part of its budget, although its administration is completely autonomous. The services provided by the Foundation consists primarily of respite for families of persons with a disability by offering residential care for a definite time to the person with a disability. It also offers day care activities and social work to its members and their families.

These figures (compiled in 1992) show the Foundation's performance:

Persons who benefited from the Foundation's services	304	
Registered Families	214	
Day Care Programmes	2947	
Residential Services to 155 different persons	1117	days
Foundation Staff	20	

(ii) Dar il-Wens

Eight persons with a mental disability have taken up residence in this small community home. The Association of Handicapped Youth have set up this home in 1990 with the help of the National Commission Persons with Disabilities. It is administered autonomously although financed substantially by public funding. The Surveillance Board of this home consists of two representatives from the National Commission, a representative from the Administration and another from the Association of Handicapped Youth. Presently two full-time and five part-time employees work at Dar il-Wens.

(iii) Social Fund for Special Needs

In 1991, the Commission introduced the Social Fund for Special Needs to aid persons with disabilities by way of grants and soft loans, to purchase special equipment to live independently. As a start, the fund emphasized requests that aided persons with disabilities to find employment.

Afterwards, this fund was extended towards educational aims. It is planned to widen this service to include all types of aids and above all to also have advisory services so that a person with a disability would acquire the right equipment that is best suited for him to live independently.

The following figures show how this fund operated during the past two years:

30 persons benefited from this fund
22 persons received a grant to buy a computer
2 persons received a grant from the fund and a loan from a commercial bank to buy a computer
5 persons were given a grant to purchase other equipment
1 person received a loan from a commercial bank

Total sum of grants	Lm11,429
Total sum of loans by commercial banks	Lm 4,600

(iv) The Commission helped in the organisation of summer camps held between the Department of Education and the Parents Society of Handicapped Children.

2.3.0 Equal Opportunities

2.3.1 Legislation

(i) Equal Opportunities Act

The Commission requested Government to legislate so that persons with disabilities are guaranteed equal opportunities. This request was met and in fact this law was announced during the Presidential Speech inaugurating this legislature.

The Government appointed the Commission to prepare a draft for this bill. It is envisaged that this Law will have three main sections:

(a) rights of persons with disabilities,
(b) benefits and services required to ensure equal opportunities and,
(c) the necessary enforcement mechanism including the National Commission Persons with Disabilities.

(ii) The Commission requested both the Government and the Opposition to appoint a representative in order to establish a committee under the presidency of the Speaker

of the House of Representatives to see that all laws enacted by the Parliament of Malta conform with the United Nations World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons thus ensuring equal opportunities to persons with disabilities. Both sides accepted.

(iii) Special Identity Card

The National Commission Persons with Disabilities issues a Special Identity Card to persons with disabilities who request it. This card procures various benefits mainly in giving service priority at various government departments, commercial banks and other organizations. There are also other benefits such as deduction or exemption from certain fees.

Figures regarding this service up to the end of 1992 are as follows:

1300 persons received the card
84 persons will receive the card soon.

Presently the Commission is planning to re-organize the issuing of this card so that persons with disabilities are divided into categories depending on their personal needs so that specific benefits are given to those who require them.

2.3.2. Physical Environment

(i) Structure Plan

When the Structure Plan was being drafted the National Commission Persons with Disabilities made various recommendations to include all the necessary policies so that the physical environment would be accessible to everybody including persons who use a wheelchair.

The Parliament of Malta approved the Structure Plan which includes policies regarding this subject. In brief these state:

(a) that all public places have to be accessible to everybody including persons who use a wheelchair (policies Ben 15, Soc 24 and Com 7),
(b) that the new public transport buses purchased have to be accessible to everybody including persons who use a wheelchair (policy PTR 2),
(c) that suitable building sites and schemes will be allocated to the elderly and persons with disabilities to ensure proper facilities and accessible housing (policies Soc 16 and 18 - 20),
(d) that a twenty-year development plan based on this same (policy Soc 17) has to be drawn.

The Commission is insisting that, regulations regarding public places are identical to those issued by the European Community so that all new buildings are accessible to everybody.

Since 1990 the Government has issued a circular stating that all new Government premises have to be accessible to everybody.

The Commission had put forward individual requests so that new buildings open to the public, are accessible to everybody. Such requests include the new Air Terminal, the Independence and Marina Gardens, Ta' Qali National Park, the Sport venues being built for the Small Nations Games, the Civic Centres at Naxxar, Qormi and Birkirkara, new churches at Xemxija and St. Paul's Bay, new branches of the Bank of Valletta, the Mid-Med Bank and the Lombard Bank, the extension of the Central Bank of Malta and of the University of Malta, Works Department Offices and those at Castille Place and others. The outcome of these requests are mixed although some progress has been registered.

The Commission has employed an architect to advice on these measures.

Regarding public transport, the Commission had made requests to the Transport Authority and the Ministry for Transport so that the new buses conform with the Policies of the Structure Plan. The Commission had publicly stated that the first prototype bus does not satisfy the Structure Plan's policies. The Commission has forwarded a memorandum to the Cabinet on this matter.

The Commission has made requests to the Housing Authority so that new Government apartments are built in such a way as to provide maximum accessibility. These principles have been observed at the new apartments built at Imtarfa. Lifts were installed in other apartments. However more need to be done, especially to construct ground floor apartments without stairs. Unfortunately this is not always the case.

Preference is given by the Housing Authority when allocating government apartments and building sites to persons with disabilities and their families. This helps these people to have accommodation suitable for their needs.

The Commission requested to be represented on the Advisory Board of the Planning Authority. This request was accepted and presently the Commission is being represented by a person who is a wheelchair user herself.

(ii) HD13 SCHEME

By means of this scheme, the Department of Social Accommodation grants a sum of Lm500 maximum and in the case of lift installation Lm800, so that any necessary structural alterations can be done in the residences of persons with disabilities. The alterations have to be related to the person's disability.

The Commission insisted for a more effective Scheme. The Commission requested that the definition of persons with disabilities should include Special Identity Card holders. The Commission also requested that the list of alterations given at present by the Department should serve only as a guide, so other alterations not included in this list could also be met if such alterations are needed by the concerned person because of his or her disability. The Department is still studying these requests.

(iii) Blue Sticker and Reserved Parking Areas

Persons with disabilities who have mobility problems can affix the Blue Sticker to their car windscreen giving them the right to park in reserved places. The Commission made various recommendations regarding these stickers to the Traffic Control Board and obtained the following results:

Persons who acquired the Blue Sticker on recommendation by the KNPD	414
Pending Applications	6

The Commission has made contacts abroad so that this scheme will be affiliated to similar schemes in Europe thus effecting a reciprocal use of these stickers.

The Commission is planning to alter the scheme so that the sticker is issued to the person with disability himself or herself. At present the sticker is being issued to the vehicle.

The Commission asked this Board to increase the number of Reserved Parking Areas near public places, beaches and other general parking areas. In fact their number has substantially increased. Unfortunately the public seldom observes these rules and the Commission had to:

(a) issue a sticker to be affixed on the windscreens of those cars that contravene these parking concessions.
(b) ask to increase fines for those who infringe upon these regulations. This proposal is still under study.
(c) ask for law enforcement to ensure that these regulations are observed.

The Traffic Control Board, on the recommendation of the Commission, grants a Reserved Parking Area permission in front of their residence to persons with severe mobility problems.

At the end of 1992 there were 121 persons who had a reserved parking area upon recommendations of the Commission and 11 cases are still pending.

(iv) Telephone

Upon the Commission's recommendations, Telemalta Corporation has worked and is still working on an accessible telephone system for all, including persons with disabilities. The Corporation employed two measures to this effect. First, it changed dial telephone sets to digital telephone sets of persons with disabilities and secondly, it offered various special apparatus so that persons with disabilities can make a better use of the telephone service. Examples of such apparatus are loud ringing telephone bells, an amplifier attached to the headset and a flashing light when the telephone is ringing.

The Commission is discussing with Telemalta Corporation the introduction of text telephones for persons with hearing impairment to enable them to communicate on the phone by typing messages instead of speaking. Offers for tenders to purchase the necessary equipment have already been issued. The Commission also requested the Office of the Prime Minister to issue

a circular to all Government Departments to install a text telephone set so that persons with a hearing impairment will have access to these Departments by means of the telephone as well.

2.3.3 Social Security and Financial Income

(i) Pension for Persons with Disabilities

Upon the Commission's recommendations, the Department of Social Security, amended the Social Security Act so that persons who receive this type of non-contributory pension continue to receive this pension even if they earn an income from part-time employment or an inheritance, so long as the total income does not exceed the minimum national wage. If the income exceeds the minimum wage, the pension is deducted pro rata. This measure is helping persons with disabilities to integrate in the labour force.

The Commission requested the Department of Social Security that persons with hearing impairment and persons who suffer from mental illness also benefit from this pension. The Department has accepted that persons who have a mental illness and who have resided in a mental hospital for an aggregate period of not less than nine months, during the last three consecutive years, are eligible for an allowance which is far less than this pension. As regards hearing impaired persons, this pension is given to those who are "totally deaf and dumb". The Special Children Allowance (which is Lm3 weekly) is given to hearing impaired persons who continue to study and are not receiving any other allowances. The Commission is insisting that these anomalies are rectified.

(ii) Special Children Allowance

In 1988, upon the Commission's recommendation, the Department of Social Security started giving Lm3 Special Children Allowance weekly to children with a disability. One year later this benefit was extended to include children who have a hearing impairment.

(iii) Incontinency Service

In 1992 the National Commission commenced a new service for persons who are incontinent. Vouchers are exchanged for disposable diapers. Figures relevant to this service for the year 1992 are the following:

742 persons are receiving this service
207 applications are still pending. These are divided as follows:
52 are applicants from Dar tal-Providenza
90 are applicants from other institutions
65 other applications.

It is being planned that as from 1994 this service would be provided by the Department concerned.

(iv) Home Help Care and Telecare

The Commission recommended to the Department for the Elderly and Special Needs the extension of the services of Home Help Care and Telecare to younger persons who require them. It is envisaged that the Home Help Care will have a Specialized Section to give personal assistance to persons with disabilities.

(v) Duty Exemption

The Commission recommended that duty exemption on cars used by persons with disabilities and their families be increased. This request was accepted and the situation has improved both with regards to the sum of money exempted and also to the number of persons who can benefit. The means test for this benefit has been abolished also. Figures up to the end of 1992 regarding this benefit show:

99 persons were granted duty exemption on specially modified cars
79 persons received duty exemption on normal cars.

The Commission recommends also to the Ministry of Finance that persons with disabilities who have a modified car be exempted from the road licence. 72 persons benefited from this service up to the end of 1992.

The Commission also requested the Ministry of Finance for duty exemption on equipment required by persons with disabilities. This includes special aids and other equipment such as computers.

The Commission asked the Ministry of Finance to amend the Duty Act so that special equipment needed by persons with disabilities may be imported automatically duty free. This request conforms with the International Treaty (Florence Agreement) which Malta ratified, and also with the latest regulations of the European Community. This recommendation is still being studied by the Ministry of Finance.

2.3.4 Education and Training

(i) Sub-Committee Report regarding Education

The first sub-committee report, discussed and approved, was that regarding Special Education in Malta. This report made practical suggestions so that this essential service is given in the most effective manner. Meetings were held with the Department of Education so that this report is implimented.

(ii) National Policy regarding Special Education in Malta

The Commission drew up a policy document regarding Special Education in Malta. This document is being printed in the Maltese and English languages and recorded on audio tapes. This document is sub-divided into three sections:

(a) the first section covers the present situation in detail,
(b) the second section covers the recommendations, regarding this subject, given in the United Nations World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons, and
(c) the final section covers the necessary recommendations which have to be implemented in our country to render this national policy effective.

(iii) Kindergarten Assistants for Students with Disabilities

The Commission gladly accepted the positive measure that students with disabilities who attend "normal" schools are aided by kindergarten assistants. This progressive measure, if correctly implemented, will greatly help more persons with disabilities to integrate in the Maltese education system.

(iv) Action Research Programme

The Commission welcomed the Action Research Programme undertaken by the University of Malta to identify the needs of students attending special schools. The Commission urged that the information gathered be translated into educational programmes for these students to be followed by their teachers, parents and other professionals.

(vi) Transport and Meals in Special Schools

The Commission held various meetings and discussions regarding this subject. The Commission is represented on the board that monitors these meals. The Commission believes that substantial progress has been registered.

(vii) Private Schools

The Commission held talks with the Church Private School authorities regarding the integration of students with disabilities. Particular reference was made to the entrance form, which is signed by every parent, so that discriminatory language against persons with disabilities is not used. Discussions were also held so that students with disabilities enrolled in these schools are provided with the necessary educational support.

(viii) Transfer of Persons with Disabilities to Adult Day Centres

The Commission called meetings for Special Schools and Adult Day Centres personnel in order to work out a programme for a smooth transfer of students from special schools to these centres. This is to be done by holding case conferences and by arranging preliminary visits to Adult Day Centres for these students and their teachers.

2.3.5 Employment

(i) Sub-committee Report

The Commission discussed and approved the detailed report prepared by the sub-committee regarding Employment and submitted this report to the concerned authorities.

(ii) Disablement Resettlement Unit

As a result of this report, the first measure that was implemented was the establishment of the Disablement Resettlement Unit within the Department of Labour as envisaged in the Employment (Disabled Persons) Act of 1969.

(iii) Employment and Training Corporation

With the establishment of this Corporation , the Commission insisted that the Disablement Resettlement Unit forms an integral part of it. This proposal is still being studied.

The Commission also insisted that the Corporation has the duty to see to the needs of workers with disabilities with regards to both training and placement. The Corporation trained a limited number of persons with disabilities.It also ensured that the offices where training was being provided were accessible to all persons including persons who use a wheelchair.

(iv) Incentives to Local Industry

On the recommendation of the Commission, the Industrial Development Act 1988 offered higher incentives to local industrialists who offered training and/or employment to persons with disabilities.

(v) Auxiliary Workers Scheme

At thé Commission's recommendations, persons with severe disabilities who had great difficulties in finding suitable employment were given temporary employment under this scheme. All these recommendations were accepted and the majority of these persons now have permanent employment with the Government.

(vi) Computer Lab

The Commission requested government financial aid to be granted to two voluntary bodies to set up computer laboratories where persons with disabilities can receive training and find temporary employment. The two centres are the Corradino Rehabilitation Centre and the Muscular Dystrophy Group. The first lab has already been inaugurated whilst the second is expected to start functioning soon.

Computer courses have already been organized at the Corradino Laboratory for persons with disabilities and children with hearing impairment. Similar courses for visually impaired persons and also remedial lessons in English, Mathematics and Maltese for persons with disabilities requiring these courses are being planned.

(vii) Adult Day Centres

The Commission worked hand in hand with Adult Day Centres of the Department of Social and Family Assistance to apply measures for a more efficient service. These measures were:

(a) the recruitment and training of new careworkers on full-time and part-time basis and other para-medical workers such as social assistants, nurses and occupation therapists
(b) the purchasing of educational and audio visual material
(c) the holding of case conferences by a team of professionals so that persons with disabilities are enrolled in these Centres
(d) structural extensions at the Imtarfa and Hal Far Centres
(e) the transfer of the Santa Venera Centre to a new premises
(f) improvements on the meals provided at these Centres
(g) the purchasing of suitable vehicles for persons with disabilities.

The Commission made an agreement with the Gozitan Church so that the Adult Day Centre in Gozo be transferred to the building of the Gozo Society of the Handicapped situated in Ghajnsielem. This agreement is to be signed very soon and persons with disabilities are expected to use the new centre soon afterwards.

2.3.6 Recreation - Culture - Religion - Sports

(i) Exemption - Deductions on Fees

The Commission asked various organizers of sports and cultural activities so that Special Identity Cards holders will be granted reduction on entrance fees or be exempted from paying. The Museums Department, the Manoel Theatre Committee, the Gozo Channel Co Ltd, the Malta Football Association, the Malta Trade Fair Corporation and the Marsa Racing Club conceded to these requests.

(ii) Appointment of Delegate of the Archbishop

The Commission welcomed the appointment of Reverend Fr. Charles Abela as the Archbishop's Delegate to co-ordinate pastoral and religious duties among persons with disabilities. The Commission is working closely with him and, in fact, Fr Charles was also appointed a member of the Commission.

(iii) Persons with mental disabilities participation in the Paraolympics

The Commission gave its full support including financial assistance, to ten Maltese athletes with mental disabilities who participated in the first Paraolympics for Persons with Mental Disability held in Madrid. Although we had heavy adverse results, the experience we gathered will help us to organize sport activities through out the year for these persons and many others with mental disabilities.

2.3.7 Action in the Community

(i) The Commission has closely worked with various organizations to reach its aims to implement the World Programme of Action. These Associations and Organizations namely are:

(a) the Federation of Voluntary Organizations for the Handicapped
(b) the Parents' Society of Handicapped Children
(c) Muscular Dystrophy Group
(d) the Rehabilitation Centre, Corradino
(e) Caritas (Malta)
(f) Association for Handicapped Youth
(g) Gozo Society for the Handicapped
(h) Gozo Association of the Deaf
(i) Health Education Unit
(j) Public Broadcasting Services
(k) all private radio stations
(l) all newspapers
(m) Institute of Broadcasters
(n) Press Club
(o) AZAD
(p) GEM
(q) the University of Malta
(r) the political parties
(s) the GWU and the CMTU
(t) the Eden Foundation
(u) The Down's Children Association

2.3.8 Staff Training

(i) Teachers' Training

The Faculty of Education at the University of Malta organized a special education course for teachers. The University invited the Commission to be represented on the Studies Board to have this course repeated.

The Commission insisted with the authorities of the Faculty of Education at the University of Malta that teachers should acquire more training in special education not only in special schools but also with children with special needs attending ordinary schools. To reach this goal, a seminar with the lecturers of this Faculty was held. As an immediate result, another unit on Special Education was added to the curriculum of this course.

The Commission sought to introduce a distance learning course in conjunction with the University of Birmingham for the training of teachers of hearing impaired children. Although a lot of work has been done, all efforts as yet have proved unfruitful.

(ii) Institute of Health Care

The Commission greatly appreciated the setting up of the Institute of Health Care because it realized that this institution can train staff working in this field in such a way as to encourage the development of a multi-disciplinary philosophy. The Commission requested it should be represented on the Institute's Board. This request is still being studied.

(iii) Communication Therapists

The Commission insisted with the University of Malta to initiate a course for Communication Therapists (Speech Therapists) because it felt a lack of such professionals and their important contribution in developing services to persons with disabilities.

(iv) Child Development Advisory Unit Personnel

The Commission made recommendations to train professionals who would eventually be employed at the Child Development Advisory Unit. In view of this, the Department of Health sent a Doctor to train as a Community Pediatrician and an Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist and Communication Therapist to train as a team in the Bobath Method. The Department of Education sent a teacher to train in special education for pre-school children.

(v) Makaton System

The Commission in conjunction with the Gozo Association of the Deaf worked towards the introduction of the Makaton System in Malta. This system based on the sign language as used by hearing impaired persons is adapted for use with persons who have a mental disability. The Commission sponsored two university students to follow a short course in this system in England.

2.3.9 Information and Public Education

(i) Resource Centre

As soon as the Commission was established, it started building up a Resource Centre to all those who work or are involved in this field. At present the Centre has:

Books	1181
Periodicals	50
Videos	153
Audio Cassettes	24
Educational Aids	33
Persons using the Resource Centre	111

This centre is accessible to all and is situated at the Commission's Offices at the Centru Hidma Socjali Santa Venera.

(ii) Conferences and Seminars

During the past five years, the Commission organized activities both on a national and sectional scale to arouse positive public awareness regarding the rights of persons with disabilities in our country.

In 1989, the Commission together with the Parents' Society of Handicapped Children organized a two day Conference with the theme "Towards the Future - Principles and Policies".

Participants consisted of various government ministers, heads of government departments, union representatives, voluntary associations working with persons with disabilities, and also persons with disabilities themselves and their families.

One year later, the Commission and the University of Malta in collaboration with the International Academy of Pediatric Transdisciplinary Education organized an International Conference with the theme "Early Intervention - Care and Education - A Multi-Disciplinary Approach". During this conference, apart from Maltese speakers, there were others from various foreign countries such as Sweden, the United Kingdom, Israel, India, Italy, Germany, the United States of America, New Zealand, France and Denmark.

During 1991, the Commission, with the cooperation of AZAD and GEM, organized a National Conference with the theme "The Political Process and Persons with Disabilities".

"The Mass Media and Persons with Disabilities" was the theme of a seminar addressed to professionals working in the Media sector. This seminar was organized by the Commission in 1991 and held with the cooperation of the Press Club and the Institute of Broadcasters.

In 1992, to mark the end of the Decade dedicated to Persons with Disabilities by the United Nations, the Commission organized another national conference with the theme "Persons with Disabilities: the Last Ten Years ... the Next Ten Years..." During this conference, principal governmental departments, the church, the Federation of Voluntary Organizations for the Handicapped and the Commission itself presented their reports and their analysis.

The GEM Foundation, in collaboration with the Commission, organized an open-air public forum with the theme "The Handicapped is ONE OF US" and a Cineforum presenting the film "Gaby". These two activities were both held in 1989.

(iii) Publications by the Commission

The Commission together with the Health Education Unit issued a directory of all Associations working in this field in Maltese, English and recorded on audio tapes.

All the contributions of the conference "Towards the Future" were published in English and recorded on audio tapes.

The Commission published two versions in Maltese of the booklet "Servizzi u Benefiċċji għal Handikappati" consisting of brief information needed by persons with disabilities and their families to acquire these services and benefits. Presently, a booklet in the English version and the third edition in Maltese are being prepared. An audio version of the second edition is also ready.

The Commission helped Caritas (Malta) to issue a directory in Maltese "Għin Ruħek" showing a whole list of aids for sale. These aids help persons with disabilities to live a more independent life.

(iv) Newsletter 'Indaqs'

The Commission publishes twice annually the newsletter 'Indaqs' giving information upon the work of the Commission to people with disabilities, their families and all those working in this field. To date the Commission has published two editions of 'Indaqs'. This newsletter has also an audio version.

(v) Persons with Disability Week

The Federation of Voluntary Organizations for the Handicapped annually organizes a week of activities to arouse public awareness with regards to the rights of people with disabilities. The Commission greatly supports these activities and published the following as its contribution:

5 posters with the themes – Min hu l-Handikappat
Il-Handikappat wieħed Minna
Opportunitajiet Indaqs
Aċċessibilità għal kulħadd
Bi Dritt...Kollox

a bookmark with the theme 'Bid-Dritt...f'Kollox' and
2 stickers with the themes – 'Aċċessibilità għal Kulħadd'.
"Opportunitajiet Indaqs"

(vi) Education Pack

Presently, the Commission is printing an education pack on children with disabilities to be used by teachers in ordinary schools in order to arouse positive awareness towards the rights of persons with disabilities. This pack consists of six lessons (introduction, persons with mental disability, persons with physical disability, persons with hearing impairment, persons with visual impairment and conclusion) together with notes for teachers. This pack will be ready by mid-April.

(vii) Stand at the Malta International Trade Fair

To mark the end of the United Nations decade dedicated to persons with disabilities , the Commission participated with a stand at the Malta International Trade Fair held at Naxxar with the theme "Equal Opportunities".

3.0 INTERNATIONAL ACTION

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3.1 UN International Disability Statistics Workshop

In 1989, the Maltese Government, through the Commission helped the United Nations to organize in Malta this workshop addressed to third world countries. Forty delegates from twenty different states participated in this workshop This workshop was held under the auspices of the United Nations Office of Technical Cooperation for Development.

As a direct result of this workshop, the Commission gained help from the same United Nations Office so that it could compile the Register of Maltese and Gozitan Persons with Disabilities.

3.1 Maltese Participation in International Fora

Malta participated in a Ministerial Conference held at Montreal in Canada, to mark the end of the United Nations decade dedicated to persons with disabilities. Malta was represented by the Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Social Development, the Hon. Dr. A. Mifsud Bonnici.

Later, the Parliamentary Secretary attended the sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations dedicated to these issues. Miss Connie Camilleri, a person with a disability, and Miss Rosanne Fenech accompanied the Secretary at the Assembly.

Malta was also represented at the Conference for European Ministers responsible for Policies regarding persons with disabilities This was held in Paris in 1991. The Hon. Dr. L. Gonzi and Mr. Fred Bezzina, the Commission's chairman and executive secretary respectively, represented Malta at this conference.

Mr Fred Bezzina also attended the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee to draw Standard Rules for Equal Opportunities for persons with disabilities held in Vienna in May 1992.

3.3 Participation of Maltese Professionals in Seminars and Conferences

The Commission recommended the Ministry for Social Development so that a number of professionals participate in international seminars and conferences. These were:

(a) Mrs Helen Mifsud Bonnici, a parent of a child with a disability, attended the conference *Autism in Tomorrow's Europe*, held at the Hague in Holland in 1989.

(b) Dr Sarah Portelli M.D., a commission member attended the conference *Together for Children* held in London in 1988.

(c) Dr Rene Eminyan M.D. a parent of a child with a disability and a commission member, attended the *Fourth International Down's Children Congress*, held in Jerusalem, Israel in 1989.

(d) Mr Tony Pace, a musician, attended a course *Music for Persons with Visual Impairment* held in 1990 in London.

(e) A Conference with the theme *Early Years*, held in Rotterdam, Holland was attended by Mr. Marcel Pisani, a parent of two children with disabilities and a commission member.

(f) Mr. J. Micallef, a person with a disability and a commission member, attended the conference *Polio and Independent Living*, held in St. Louis in the United States of America in 1989.

(g) Fr Joe Borg Micallef attended the conference *The Rights to Spiritual Development for Handicapped Children* held in Madrid, Spain in 1990.

(h) The Conference *Your Members are the Body of Christ-Persons with a Disability in Society* was held at the Vatican, in 1992. The Commission was represented at this conference by Mr. Andrew Camilleri, a person with a disability and Mr. Henry Verzin a parent of a child with a disability.

3.4 International Aid to the Commission

The Commission was helped by the Swedish Psychologist, Yuri Sonn to set up the Foundation for Respite Care Services. This aid was possible through the provision of funds granted by UNIDO of the United Nations.

The Commission made a reciprocal visit with AIAS, Milano. Three Maltese architects, Dr. A. Torpiano, J. Ellul Vincenti and L. Buttigieg together with the Commission Executive Secretary Mr. Fred Bezzina attended the seminar organized by the European Community with the theme *Barriere Architettoniche*. A group of six Italians, two of whom were persons with dis-abilities, and another two were architects, reciprocated this visit. They came to Malta to share with us their experiences and professional ideas.

3.5 ILO Convention

The Government of Malta, upon the recommendation of the Commission ratified the ILO convention No. 159 regarding the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disability.

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RAPPORT TA' ĦIDMA TAL-KUMMISSJONI NAZZJONALI PERSUNI B'DIŻABILITÀ GĦAS-SNIN 1987-1992

1.0 INTRODUZZJONI

1.0 INTRODUZZJONI

1.1 Il-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità twaqqfet fit-3 ta' Novembru 1987, meta l-ewwel laqgħa tagħha saret fl-Uffiċċju tal-Prim Ministru fil-preżenza tal-Prim Ministru nnifsu u l-Ministru tal-Politika Soċjali. Qabel din il-laqgħa, il-Ministru tal-Politika Soċjali ddikjara t-twaqqif ta' din il-Kummissjoni flimkien mal-għanijiet tagħha fi stqarrija parlamentari.

1.2 Il-membri tal-Kummissjoni ġew nominati mill-Ministru tal-Politika Soċjali (illum il-Ministru tal-Intern u Żvilupp Soċjali), u jinkludu rappreżentanti mid-Dipartmenti prinċipali governattivi li huma: l-Akkomodazzjoni Soċjali, l-Anzjani u Bżonnijiet Speċjali, il-Familja u l-Assistenza Soċjali, l-Edukazzjoni, is-Saħħa, ix-Xogħol, is-Servizzi Soċjali u Għawdex; mill-għaqdiet volontarji tal-persuni b'diżabilità flimkien ma' numru żgħir ta' individwi magħżula minħabba l-involviment tagħhom f'dan il-qasam.

1.3 Fil-preżent il-Kummissjoni għandha erba' membri li għandhom diżabilità fiżika u sitt ġenituri ta' persuni b'diżabilità.

1.4 L-għanijiet tal-Kummissjoni huma li:

(a) Tara li jitwettaq il-programm tal-Gvern fil-qasam li jolqot jew jinteressa lill-persuni b'diżabilità, il-familji tagħhom u l-għaqdiet volontarji konċernati.

(b) Tassigura l-koordinament tal-ħidma tad-Dipartimenti konċernati fit-twettiq ta' kull miżura maħsuba fil-programm tal-gvern, jew miżuri oħrajn li l-Kummissjoni tipproponi minn żmien għal żmien.

(ċ) Iżżomm kuntatt dirett u kontinwu mal-għaqdiet volontarji, l-aktar permezz tal-Federazjoni tal-Għaqdiet għall-Handikappati, kif ukoll ma' gruppi jew persuni oħra skond il-ħtieġa.

(d) Tidentifika l-ħtiġijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità u tal-għaqdiet volontarji konċernati u tieħu dawk il-miżuri li jistgħu jkunu meħtieġa fiċ-ċirkustanzi sabiex dawk il-ħtiġijiet jiġu sodisfatti kemm jista' jkun.

(e) Tassigura li jkunu provduti dawk is-servizzi ċentralizzati li jistgħu jkunu meħtieġa għat-twettiq ta' dawn il-funzjonijiet.

1.5 Il-Kummissjoni għandha segretarjat li jmexxi ħidmet il-Kummissjoni fix-xogħol ta' kuljum.

2.0 PJAN TA' AZZJONI

2.0 PJAN TA' AZZJONI

2.1.1 Il-Kummissjoni dejjem imxiet fuq ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet u l-proposti li l-Ġnus Magħquda fasslet u rrakkomandat lill-Gvernijiet kollha f'IL-PROGRAMM DINJI TA' AZZJONI DWAR IL-PERSUNI B'DIŻABILITÀ li ħareg fl-1983 fil-bidu tal-Għaxar Snin iddedikati lill-Persuni b'Diżabilità. Fil-fatt, dan ir-rapport hu mqassam fuq l-istess linji ta' dan il-programm.

2.1.2 Sotto-Kumitati

(i) Biex timplimenta dan il-Programm Dinji, il-Kummissjoni mill-bidu tat-twaqqif tagħha, ħatret 10 sotto-kumitati biex jagħmlu proposti u rakkomandazzjonijiet fuq il-livell lokali. Dawn is-sotto Kumitati kienu maqsuma hekk:

(a) Miżuri Preventivi
(b) Servizzi tas-Saħħa – Maternità u Pedjatrija
(ċ) Servizzi tas-Saħħa – Persuni Adulti
(d) Edukazzjoni
(e) Servizzi Vokazzjonali
(f) Servizzi fil-Komunità
(g) Leġislazzjoni
(h) Media
(i) Għaqdiet Volontarji
(j) Servizzi f'Għawdex

(ii) Is-Sotto Kumitati Servizzi tas-Saħħa – Maternità u Pedjatrija, Edukazzjoni, Servizzi Vokazzjonali u Għaqdiet Volontarji ħejjew rapport komprensiv li ġie adottat mill-Kummissjoni u diskuss mal-awtoritajiet konċernati.

(iii) Fil-każ ta' l-Edukazzjoni, il-Kummissjoni ħejjiet Dokument ta' Policy Nazzjonali dwar l-Edukazzjoni Speċjali f'Malta. Dan id-Dokument jinsab għall-istampa u ser ikun ippubblika bil-Malti, bl-Ingliż u f'forma awdju.

(iv) Is-Sotto-Kumitati l-oħrajn, għalkemm ma ħejjewx rapport finali, għamlu ħafna xogħol u ressqu diversi rakkomandazzjonijiet li l-Kummissjoni aċċettat u ddiskutiet mal-awtoritajiet konċernati.

2.1.3 Reġistru Nazzjonali tal-Persuni b'Diżabilità

(i) Il-Kummissjoni, sa mit-twaqqif tagħha ħasset il-ħtieġa li jkollha statistika ta' min jorbot fuqha dwar in-numru tal-persuni b'diżabilità flimkien mal-bżonnijiet funzjonali tagħhom u tal-familji tagħhom. Din l-istatistika tista' tingabar jekk ikun hemm Reġistru Nazzjonali tal-Persuni b'Diżabilità.

(ii) Għal dan il-għan il-Kummissjoni ħejjiet kwestjonarju, bil-Malti u bl-Ingliż, biex jimtela minn kull persuna b'diżabilità.

(iii) Il-Kummissjoni stiednet lill-Maltin u Għawdxin kollha permezz ta' żewġ ittri mibgħuta lil kull dar f'Malta u f'Għawdex biex kull persuna b'diżabilità timla dan il-kwestjonarju. Il-Kummissjoni tat tliet alternattivi kif jista' jimtela dan il-kwestjonarju:

(a) mill-persuna konċernata nnifisha u jintbagħat bil-posta;
(b) minn persuna nkarigata mill-Kummissjoni f'post ċentrali;
(ċ) minn persuna nkarigata mill-Kummissjoni fid-dar tal-persuna konċernata.

(iv) Il-Kummissjoni ħejjiet programm fuq il-kompjuters biex din l-informazzjoni tiġi kompjuterizzata. Il-parti tal-informazzjoni li mhix konfidenzjali qed tiddaħħal fil-kompjuters minn persuni b'diżabilità fiżika fiċ-Ċentru ta' Rijabilitazzjoni ta' Kordin. Il-parti l-oħra tiddaħħal fil-komputers minn uffiċjali tal-Kummissjoni biex tkun assigurata l-konfidenzjalità.

(v) Sal-aħħar tas-sena 1992, il-pożizzjoni dwar dan l-istħarriġ hija hekk:

Persuni b'diżabilità li wieġbu l-kwestjonarju:	2678
Persuni b'diżabilità li applikaw biex iwieġbu l-kwestjonarju u għad iridu jagħmlu dan:	821
Persuni b'diżabilità f'istituzzjonijiet li għad iridu jimlew il-kwestjonarju:	1200 (circa)
Numru ta' kwestjonarji li daħlu fil-kompjuters:	2150

2.2.1 Parteċipazzjoni ta' Persuni b'Diżabilità fid-Deċiżjonijiet

Il-Kummissjoni temmen li l-persuni b'diżabilità u l-familji tagħhom (fejn meħtieġ) għandhom ikunu l-protagonisti prinċipali meta jiġu biex jittieħdu deċiżjonijiet li jolqtuhom. Għal dan il-għan il-Kummissjoni ħadet diversi miżuri fosthom:

(i) Fil-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità hemm 5 rappreżentanti tal-Federazzjoni tal-Għaqdiet għall-Ħandikappati. Il-President ta' din il-Federazzjoni hu wkoll membru tal-Eżekuttiv tal-Kummissjoni.

(ii) Fil-Kummissjoni hemm 4 persuni b'diżabilità fiżika u sitt ġenituri ta' persuni b'diżabilità.

(iii) Fis-Segreterija tal-Kummissjoni hemm 7 persuni b'diżabilità u żewġ ġenituri ta' persuni b'diżabilità li jaħdmu fil-livelli kollha tax-xogħol tas-Segreterija.

(iv) Il-Kummissjoni rrakkomandat diversi persuni b'diżabilità jew ġenituri ta' persuni b'diżabilità kompetenti biex ikunu membri ta' bordijiet bħal ma huma:

- iċ-Chairman tal-bord tal-HD13 maħtur mid-Dipartiment tal-Akkomodazzjoni Soċjali,
- iċ-Chairman tal-Fond Soċjali għal Bżonnijiet Speċjali maħtur mill-Kummissjoni stess,
- il-bord għall-Kontroll tat-Traffiku maħtur mill-Ministeru tal-Intern u Żvilupp Soċjali,

- il-bord tal-Fondazzjoni Servizzi tar-Respite Care biex jirrappreżenta lill-Kummissjoni,
- il-bord ta' trustees tal-Fondazzjoni Eden biex jirrappreżenta lill-Kummissjoni,
- il-bord Konsultattiv għall-Ippjanar maħtur mill-ministeru tal-Ambjent,
- diversi bordijiet tal-għażla għall-personnel li jaħdem f'dan il-qasam fosthom id-direttur u ħaddiema tal-Fondazzjoni għas-Servizz tar-Respite Care, ħaddiema tal-Fondazzjoni Eden u care workers tad-Dipartiment tal-Familja u l-Assistenza Soċjali.

(v) persuni b'diżabilità u ġenituri ntalbu jkunu fuq panels biex jagħtu taħditiet kemm pubbliċi kif ukoll fuq il-mezzi ta' komunikazzjoni.

(vi) Il-Kummissjoni ħadmet mill-qrib ma' diversi għaqdiet volontarji biex tipprovdi servizzi lill-persuni b'diżabilità u l-familji tagħhom jew biex torganizza attivitajiet ħalli titqajjem kuxjenza pubblika addattata f'dan il-qasam. Fost dawn hemm:

- it-twaqqif tal-Fondazzjoni għas-Servizzi ta' Respite Care ma' l-Għaqda Ġenituri ta' Tfal Ħandikappati,
- it-twaqqif ta' Dar il-Wens ma' l-Għaqda Żgħażagħ Ħandikappati,
- it-twaqqif ta' laboratorju tal-kompjuter maċ-Ċentru ta' Rijabilitazzjoni ta' Kordin u dak ippjanat mal-Muscular Dystrophy Group,
- il-Ġimgħa tal-Persuni b'Diżabilità li ssir kull sena mill-Federazzjoni tal-Għaqdiet għall-Ħandikappati bil-kooperazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni,
- is-seminar "Lejn il-Futur" li sar mal-Għaqda Ġenituri Tfal Ħandikappati,
- il-pubblikazzjoni tal-ktejjeb "Għin Ruħek" ma' Caritas (Malta),
- it-trasport ta' persuni b'diżabilità għall-attivitajiet ta' "Bieb Miftuħ".

2.2.2 Prevenzjoni ta' "Impairment", Diżabilità u Handikapp

Fil-qasam tal-prevenzjoni ta' "impairment", diżabilità u ħandikapp hemm diversi organizzazzjonijiet Governattivi li qed jagħtu sehem qawwi. Fuq quddiem nett ta' min isemmi it-Taqsima tal-Edukazzjoni għas-Saħħa u Nutriment tad-Dipartiment tas-Saħħa li magħha l-Kummissjoni kellha u għandha rabtiet kbar.

Fost il-miżuri li l-Kummissjoni stinkat biex jitwettqu fil-qasam tal-Prevenzjoni hemm:

(i) Iċ-Child Development Advisory Unit

Il-Kummissjoni, sa mit-twaqqif tagħha ħadmet ħafna biex jitwaqqaf iċ-Child Development Advisory Unit mid-Dipartiment tas-Saħħa bil-parteċipazzjoni attiva ta' dipartimenti oħrajn primarjament dak tal-Edukazzjoni u tal-Familja u l-Assistenza Soċjali. L-għan ewlieni ta' dan il-Unit hu li tim multi-dixxiplinarju jagħmel "assessment" komprensiv tat-tfal b'diżabilità minn kmieni kemm jista' jkun, jitfassal programm individwali u jagħti l-pariri lill-professjonisti konċernati, inkluż lill-ġenituri biex dan il-programm jitwettaq. Fil-preżent qed jinbena l-bini ta' dan il-Unit. Il-Kummissjoni jiddispjaċiha immensament li dan is-servizz tant importanti u essenzjali għadu ma bediex jiffunzjona kif mixtieq.

(ii) L-introduzzjoni tat-tilqima mid-Dipartiment tas-Saħħa kontra l-Gattone, il-Ġidri u r-

Rubella magħrufa bħala l-MMR lit-trabi kollha. L-għan aħħari hu li dawn it-tliet mardiet jispiċċaw minn fost it-tfal.

(iii) L-introduzzjoni mid-Dipartiment tas-Saħħa ta' ktejjeb li jingħata lil kull ġenitur bl-istorja medika fil-qosor ta' wliedhom mit-twelid. B'hekk il-ġenituri mhux biss ikollhom rekord mediku ta' wliedhom imma wkoll ikunu jistgħu jsegwu mill-qrib l-iżvilupp tagħhom u anke jindunaw minn kmieni bi problemi li jista' jkun hemm.

(iv) Il-persuni b'diżabilità kollha li jattendu l-iskejjel speċjali u ċ-Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum kull sena jingħataw it-tilqima kontra l-influwenza qabel tidħol ix-xitwa.

2.2.7 Rijabilitazzjoni

(i) Fondazzjoni għas-Servizz ta' Respite Care

Din il-Fondazzjoni twaqqfet f'Lulju tal-1991 mill-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Ħandikappati u l-Għaqda Ġenituri ta' Tfal Ħandikappati. Il-bord tad-diretturi hu fil-fatt magħmul minn tliet rappreżentanti magħżula mill-Kummissjoni, tliet rappreżentanti mill-Għaqda Ġenituri tat-Tfal Ħandikappati u tliet membri oħra mill-komunità. Il-Gvern jiffinanzja l-biċċa l-kbira tal-baġit tagħha għalkemm hi amministrata kompletament b'mod awtonomu. Is-servizzi offruti minn din il-Fondazzjoni huma primarjament li joffru mistrieħ lill-familji li jieħdu ħsieb persuna b'diżabilità anke permezz ta' residenza għal żmien definit lill-persuna b'diżabilità, attivitajiet għal matul il-jum u xogħol soċjali ma' dawn il-familji.

Il-ħidma ta' din il-Fondazzjoni tista' titfisser aħjar b'dawn il-figuri (li nġabru għas-sena 1992):

Persuni li rċevew servizz mill-Fondazzjoni	304	
Familji reġistrati	214	
Programmi ta' Kura ta' Matul il-Ġurnata	2947	
Servizz Residenzjali	1117	ġurnata lil 155 persuna differenti
Ħaddiema mal-Fondazzjoni	20	

(ii) Dar il-Wens

Din hi dar żgħira fil-komunità li fiha jabitaw 8 persuni b'diżabilità mentali. Din id-dar twaqqfet fl-1990 mill-Għaqda Żgħażagħ Ħandikappati bl-għajnuna tal-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità. Din ukoll hi amministrata b'mod awtonomu għalkemm hi ffinanzjata sostanzjalment minn fondi pubbliċi. Il-Bord ta' Sorveljanza ta' din id-dar hu magħmul minn żewġ rappreżentanti tal-Kummissjoni, rappreżentant tal-Amministrazzjoni u rappreżentant mill-Għaqda Żgħażagħ Ħandikappati. Fil-preżent Dar il-Wens timpjega 2 ħaddiema full time u 5 ħaddiema part time.

(iii) Fond Soċjali għall-Bżonnijiet Speċjali

Fl-1991, il-Kummissjoni introduċiet il-Fond Soċjali għall-Għajnuniet Speċjali biex tgħin persuni b'diżabilità permezz ta' għotjiet u self b'rati favorevoli, jixtru apparat ħalli jkunu jistgħu jgħixu ħajja indipendenti. Bħala bidu dan il-fond enfasiżża talbiet biex persuni b'diżabilità jkunu jistgħu jsibu jew itejbu l-impjieg.

Wara, din l-għajnuna ġiet estiża għal skopijiet ta' edukazzjoni. Hu ppjanat li dan is-servizz jinfetaħ biex jinkludi kull tip ta' għajnuna u fuq kollox li jkollu wkoll is-servizz ta' konsulenza biex il-persuna b'diżabilità jkollha dak l-apparat li verament jgħinha tgħix ħajja indipendenti.

Il-ħidma ta' dan il-Fond għal matul dawn is-sentejn tista' tispjegaha b'dawn il-figuri:

30	persuna b'diżabilità bbenefikaw minn din l-Iskema
22	ħadu għotja għal xiri ta' kompjuter
2	ħadu għotja mill-fond u self minn bank kummerċjali għal xiri ta' kompjuter
5	ħadu għotja għal xiri ta' apparat ieħor
1	ħadet self minn bank kummerċjali

Somma totali tal-għotjiet	Lm11,429
Somma totali ta' self mill-banek kummerċjali	Lm 4,600

(iv) Il-Kummissjoni għenet ukoll biex isiru kampijiet tas-sajf bejn id-Dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni u l-Għaqda Ġenituri ta' Tfal Ħandikappati.

2.3.0 Opportunitajiet Indaqs

2.3.1 Leġiżlazzjoni

(i) Liġi Opportunitajiet Indaqs

Il-Kummissjoni talbet lill-Gvern biex jilleġiżla ħalli jassigura opportunitajiet indaqs lill-persuni b'diżabilità. Din it-talba ntlaqgħet u fil-fatt din il-liġi tħabbret fid-Diskors tal-President ta' Malta fil-Ftuħ ta' din il-Leġiżlatura.

Il-Gvern inkariga lill-Kummissjoni biex tħejji draft ta' din il-liġi. Hu ppjanat li din il-Liġi jkollha tliet taqsimiet prinċipali li huma:

(a) taqsima bid-drittijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità.
(b) taqsima bis-servizzi u benefiċċji neċessarji għal opportunitajiet indaqs u
(ċ) il-mekkaniżmu neċessarju, inkluża l-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità, biex tkun imħarsa din il-liġi.

(ii) Il-Kummissjoni talbet lill-Gvern u lill-Oppożizzjoni biex iż-żewġ naħat jaħtru rappreżentant tagħhom ħalli jitwaqqaf kumitat taħt il-Presidenza ta' l-Ispeaker biex jara, li l-liġijiet li l-Parlament Malti jgħaddi, jkunu konformi mal-Pjan ta' Azzjoni Dwar il-Persuni b'Diżabilità maħruġ mill-Ġnus Maqgħuda u hekk nassiguraw li jkun hemm opportunitajiet indaqs. Iż-żewġ naħat aċċettaw din il-proposta.

(iii) Karta ta' l-Identità Speċjali

Il-Kummisjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità toħroġ karta ta' l-Identità Speċjali lill-persuni b'diżabilità li jitolbuha. Din il-karta tagħti diversi benefiċċji fil-biċċa l-kbira minnhom prijorità fis-servizz minn diversi dipartimenti governattivi, banek kummerċjali u organiżżazzjonijiet

oħra. Hemm ukoll benefiċċji oħra bħal tnaqqis jew eżensjoni minn ċerti ħlasijiet. Sa l-aħħar tal-1992:

1300 persuna rċevew din il-karta
84 persuna ser jirċievu din il-karta fil-jiem li ġejjin.

Fil-preżent il-Kummissjoni qed tippjana li din il-karta ta' l-Identità tkun raffinata billi l-persuni b'diżabilità jinqasmu f'kategoriji skond il-bżonnijiet tagħhom ħalli hekk ċerti benefiċċji jingħataw lil kull min għandu bżonnhom.

2.3.2 Ambjent Fiżiku

(i) Pjan ta' Struttura

Il-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità waqt li kien qed jitfassal il-Pjan ta' Struttura għamlet, diversi rappreżentazzjonijiet biex fih ikun hemm dawk il-policies neċessarji ħalli l-ambjent fiżiku jkun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd, inkluż persuni b'diżabilità ukoll dawk li jużaw is-siġġu tar-roti.

Fill-fatt, dan il-Pjan, li llum hu approvat mill-Parlament Malti, fih diversi policies li jirrigwardjaw dan il-qasam. Fil-qosor dawn jgħidu:

(a) li bini miftuħ għall-pubbliku jkun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd inkluż persuni li jużaw siġġu tar-roti (policies Ben 15, Soc 24 u Com 7),
(b) li l-karozzi tal-linja ġodda li ser jinxtraw ikunu aċċessibbli għal kulħadd, inklużi persuni li jużaw siġġu tar-roti (policy PTR 2),
(ċ) li jkun hemm siti u skemi biex ikun hemm faċilitajiet u djar adattati għal persuni anzjani u b'diżabilità (policies Soc 16 u Soc 18-20),
(d) li jkun hemm pjan ta' żvilupp għal għoxrin sena, ibbażat fuq dan l-istess Pjan ta' Struttura (policy Soc 17).

Fir-rigward ta' bini miftuħ għall-pubbliku, il-Kummissjoni qed tinsisti li jkun hemm regolamenti bbażati fuq dawk maħruġa mill-Komunità Ewropea biex bini li jinbena ġdid jkun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd.

Il-Gvern permezz ta' l-Uffiċċju tal-Prim Ministru, sa mill-1990 ħareġ ċirkulari biex bini ġdid tal-Gvern ikun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet diversi rappreżentazzjonijiet individwali biex bini miftuħ għall-pubbliku jkun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd. Il-Kummissjoni tkellmet fuq l-Air Terminal il-ġdid,il-ġonna Indipendenza u Marina, il-Park Nazzjonali F'Ta' Qali, l-attrezzaturi sportivi li qed jinbnew għall-Logħbiet tal-Pajjiżi ż-Żgħar, iċ-Ċentri Ċiviċi tan-Naxxar, Qormi u Birkirkara, il-knejjes ġodda tax-Xemxija u ta' San Pawl il-Baħar, il-fergħat ġodda tal-banek kummerċjali tal-Bank of Valletta, il-Mid Med Bank u l-Lombard Bank, l-estensjoni tal-Bank Ċentrali, l-estensjonijiet tal-Università, l-uffiċini tad-Dipartiment tax-Xogħlijiet u ta' dawk ta' ħdejn Kastilja u postijiet oħra. Ir-riżultati kienu mħallta għalkemm sar progress pjuttost żgħir.

Il-Kummissjoni ngaġġat ukoll perit bħala konsulent biex jgħinha f'din il-ħidma.

Fir-rigward tat-trasport pubbliku, il-Kummissjoni għamlet rappreżentazzjonijiet ma' l-Awtorità tat-Trasport u l-Ministeru tat-Trasport biex il-karozzi tal-linja l-ġodda jkunu skond kif jitlob l-istess Pjan ta' Struttura. Meta ġie l-ewwel prototip, il-Kummissjoni fissret pubblikament li din ma tissodisfax dak li hemm fil-Pjan ta' Struttura. Il-Kummissjoni ħejjiet memorandum dwar dan lill-Kabinett.

Il-Kummissjoni kellha wkoll rappreżentazzjonijiet ma' l-Awtorità tad-Djar biex appartamenti mibnija mill-Gvern jinbnew b'mod li joffru l-aħjar aċċessibilità. L-appartamenti li nbnew fil-belt il-ġdida ta' l-Imtarfa, ħafna minn dawn il-prinċipji ġew osservati. Appartamenti oħra ġew installati b'lifts. Però għad fadal x'isir, l-aktar biex appartamenti fil-pjan terran ikunu mingħajr taraġ, ħaġa li sfortunatament mhux dejjem issir.

L-Awtorità wkoll tagħti preferenza fl-għoti ta' plots għal bini u appartamenti tal-Gvern lill-persuni b'diżabilità jew il-familjari tagħhom. Dan qed jgħin biex dawn il-persuni jkollhom djar aktar adattati għall-bżonnijiet tagħhom.

Fl-aħħar nett il-Kummissjoni talbet li tkun rappreżentata fuq il-bord Konsultattiv għall-Ippjanar. Din it-talba ntlaqgħet u fuq dan il-bord issa hemm persuna li tirrappreżenta l-bżonnijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità u hi stess tuża siġġu tar-roti.

(ii) Skema HD13

Id-Dipartiment tal-Akkomodazzjoni Soċjali għandu Skema li permezz tagħha persuni b'diżabilità jingħataw għotja sa massimu ta' Lm500, fil-kaz ta' lifts is-somma titla' għal Lm800, biex permezz tagħha jkunu jistgħu jsiru l-alterazzjonijiet meħtieġa minħabba xi diżabilità li persuna li tgħix f'dak is-sit ikollha. Dawn l-alterazzjonijiet iridu jkunu relatati mad-diżabilità tal-persuna.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet diversi rappreżentazzjonijiet biex din l-Iskema titħaddem b'mod aktar effettiv. Il-Kummissjoni talbet li d-definizzjoni ta' persuni b'diżabilità ssir tali li tinkludi persuni li għandhom il-karta ta' l-Identità Speċjali. Il-Kummissjoni talbet ukoll li l-lista ta' alterazzjonijiet ammessibbli minn din l-iskema tkun biss gwida u b'hekk alterazzjonijiet oħra li mhumiex imniżżla fil-lista jkunu jistgħu jintlaqgħu jekk jinstab li huma bżonnjużi minħabba d-diżabilità tal-persuna konċernata. Dawn it-talbiet tal-Kummissjoni għadhom qed jiġu studjati mid-Dipartiment.

(iii) Blue Sticker u Reserved Parking Areas

Il-Blue Sticket hu stiker li jeħel mal-windscreen tal-karozza ta' persuni b'diżabilità ta' mobilità li permezz tiegħu l-persuna konċernata tingħata d-dritt li tipparkja f'postijiet riservati għal dan il-għan. Il-Kummissjoni bdiet tagħmel ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet għal dawn l-istikers lill-Bord tal-Kontroll tat-Traffiku b'dawn ir-riżultati:

Persuni li ħadu l-Blue Sticker fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-KNPD	414
Applikazzjonijiet pendenti	6

Il-Kummissjoni wkoll qiegħda tippjana li tibdel din l-iskema biex l-istiker jibda joħroġ lill-persuna b'diżabilità u mhux lill-karozza kif qed isir fil-preżent.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet rappreżentazzjoni ma' dan l-istess bord biex jiżdied in-numru ta' Reserved Parking Areas ħdejn postijiet pubbliċi, xtajtiet u areas ta' parking ġenerali. Fil-fatt in-numru tagħhom żdied qatigħ. Sfortunatament il-pubbliku ftit li xejn josservahom u għal dan il-għan il-Kummissjoni:

(a) ħarġet stiker biex jitwaħħal fuq il-windscreen ta' dawk li jipparkjaw f'dawn il-postijiet bla permess.

(b) talbet biex jiżdiedu l-pieni għal min jikser dan ir-regolament. Din it-talba qed tkun studjata.

(ċ) talbet lill-pulizija biex joqogħdu aktar attenti ħalli dan ir-regolament ikun osservat.

Il-Bord tal-Kontroll tat-Traffiku wkoll, fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni, jagħti Reserved Parking Area lill-Persuni li għandhom diżabilità severa ta' mobilità.

Sa l-aħħar tal-1992 kien hemm:

121 persuna li għandhom reserved parking area fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni u 11-il kaz pendenti.

(iv) Telefon

Fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni, it-Telemalta ħadmet u qed taħdem biex is-sistema tat-telefon tkun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd, inkluż persuni b'diżabilità. Din il-korporazzjoni ħadet żewġ miżuri biex twettaq dan. L-ewwel, bidlet is-sett tat-telefon bid-'dial' għal dak digitali għal persuni b'diżabilità u t-tieni, offriet diversi apparat speċjali biex persuna b'diżabilità tkun tista' tuża t-telefon aħjar. Eż qanpiena tgħajjat, amplifier mal-'headset', dawl jixgħel mal-ħoss tat-telefon, eċċ.

Il-Kummissjoni qed tagħmel diskussjonijiet biex it-Telemalta ġġib ukoll t-text telefon għall-persuni neqsin mis-smigħ, biex jikkomunikaw fuq it-telefon permezz tal-kitba flok permezz tal-kelma mitkellma. It-tender għal dan l-apparat diġa' ħareġ. Il-Kummissjoni talbet ukoll lill-Uffiċċju tal-Prim Ministru biex toħroġ ċirkulari ħalli d-dipartimenti tal-Gvern kollha jkollhom sett minn dan it-telefon ħalli persuni neqsin mis-smigħ ikollhom aċċessibiltà għal dawn id-dipartimenti permezz tat-telefon.

2.3.3 Sigurtà Soċjali u Dħul Finanzjarju

(i) Penzjoni tal-Persuni Handikappati

Id-dipartiment tas-Sigurtà Soċjali fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni, emenda l-liġi tas-Sigurtà Soċjali biex persuni li jirċievu din il-penzjoni mhux kontributorja jkunu jistgħu jkomplu jirċievu din il-penzjoni anke jekk ikollhom dħul ieħor minn xogħol part-time jew minn wirt, basta d-dħul totali tagħhom ma jaqbiżx il-paga minima nazzjonali. Jekk dan id-dħul jaqbeż il-paga minima, il-penzjoni tonqos pro rata. Din il-miżura qed tgħin biex aktar persuni b'diżabilità jkunu jistgħu jidħlu fid-dinja tax-xogħol.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet rakkomandazzjonijiet lid-Dipartiment tas-Sigurtà Soċjali biex persuni neqsin mis-smigħ u persuni li għandhom mard mentali jibbenefikaw ukoll minn din il-penzjoni. S'issa d-dipartiment wasal li jaċċetta li persuni li jbatu minn mard mentali u li jkunu ġew rikoverati għal perjodu aggregat ta' mhux anqas minn disa' xhur matul l-aħħar tliet snin konsekuttivi fi sptar mentali jingħataw allowance li hi anqas ħafna minn din il-penzjoni. Fir-rigward tal-persuni neqsin mis-smigħ din il-penzjoni tingħata lil min hu "trux u mutu kompletament" u tingħata ukoll l-allowance speċjali tat-tfal (Lm3 fil-ġimgħa) lil dawn il-persuni li jkomplu jistudjaw u li ma jkollhomx allowances oħra. Il-Kummissjoni qed tinsisti li dawn l-anomaliji ma jibqgħux.

(ii) Allowance Speċjali tat-Tfal

Id-Dipartiment tas-Sigurtà Soċjali fl-1988, fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali, beda jagħti allowance speċjali ta' Lm3 fil-ġimgħa lil tfal li għandhom xi diżabilità. Sena wara, din l-allowance kienet estiża wkoll biex tinkludi tfal li għandhom nuqqas ta' smigħ.

(iii) Servizz dwar l-Inkontinenza

Fl-1992 il-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali bdiet servizz ġdid lill-persuni li huma inkontinenti. Dan is-servizz jikkonsisti filli dawn il-persuni jingħataw vouchers li jissarrfu fi ħrieqi li jintremew. Sal-aħħar tal-1992:

742 persuna qed jirċievu dan is-servizz
Hemm ukoll 207 applikazzjoni pendenti li jinqasmu hekk:
52 applikant mid-Dar tal-Providenza
90 applikant minn istituzzjonijiet oħra
65 applikazzjonijiet oħra.

Hu ppjanat li mill-1994 dan is-servizz jibda jingħata mid-Dipartiment konċernat.

(iv) Home Help Care u Telecare

Id-Dipartiment tal-Anzjani u Bżonnijiet Speċjali fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni estenda s-servizz tal-Home Help Care u t-TeleCare lill-persuni mhux anzjani li għandhom bżonnhom. Hu ttamat li l-Home Help Care ikollu Taqsima Speċjalizzata biex tagħti assistenza personali lill-persuni b'diżabilità.

(v) Eżenzjoni mid-Dazju

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet rappreżentazzjonijiet biex l-eżenzjoni fuq karozzi użati mill-persuni b'diżabilità u l-familjari tagħhom tiżdied. Din it-talba ntlaqgħet u saru diversi miljoramenti kemm fis-somom ta' eżenzjoni, kemm fil-persuni li jistgħu jibbenefikaw u anke fil-fatt li issa tneħħa l-eżami tal-mezzi. Sa l-aħħar tal-1992:

99 persuna ħadu eżenzjoni mid-dazju fuq karozza modifikata
79 persuna ħadu eżenzjoni mid-dazju fuq karozza normali.

Il-Kummissjoni tagħmel ukoll rakkomandazzjonijiet lill-Ministru tal-Finanzi biex persuni li għandhom karozza modifikata jingħataw ukoll eżenzjoni mill-ħlas tal-liċenzja tat-triq. Sa l-aħħar tal-1992 kien hemm 72 persuna li ħadu dan il-benefiċċju.

Il-Kummissjoni tagħmel ukoll rakkomandazzjonijiet lill-Ministeru tal-Finanzi biex persuni b'diżabilità li jkollhom bżonn apparat minħabba d-diżabilità tagħhom jiġu eżentati mid-dazju. Dan jinkludi apparat speċjali u anke apparat ieħor bħal kompjuters.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet rakkomandazzjoni lill-Ministeru tal-Finanzi biex il-Liġi tad-Dwana tiġi emendata biex apparat speċjali li persuni b'diżabilità jkollhom bżonn jidħol Malta mingħajr dazju awtomatikament. Din it-talba hi konformi ma' Trattat Internazzjonali (Florence Agreement) li Malta rratifikat u anke ma' l-aħħar regolament tal-Komunità Ewropea. Din ir-rakkomandazzjoni għada qed tkun studjata mill-Ministeru konċernat.

2.3.4 Edukazzjoni u Taħriġ

(i) Rapport tas-Sotto-Kumitat Dwar l-Edukazzjoni

Wieħed mill-ewwel rapport tas-sotto-kumitati mwaqqfa minna li ddiskutejna u approvajna kien dak dwar l-Edukazzjoni Speċjali f'Malta. Dan ir-rapport kien fih suġġerimenti prattiċi li hemm bżonn jitwettqu biex dan is-servizz essenzjali jingħata bl-aħjar mod possibbli. Saru diversi laqgħat mad-Dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni biex dan ir-rapport jitpoġġa fil-prattika.

(ii) Policy Nazzjonali Dwar l-Edukazzjoni Speċjali f'Malta

Il-kummissjoni ħejjiet ukoll dokument tal-policy tagħha rigward l-Edukazzjoni Speċjali f'Malta. Dan id-dokument qed jiġi stampat kemm bil-Malti kif ukoll bl-Ingliz u anke f'forma awdjo. Dan id-dokument hu maqsum fi tliet taqsimiet:

(a) l-ewwel taqsima fiha ħarsa dettaljata tas-sitwazzjoni preżenti,
(b) it-tieni taqsima fiha r-rakkomandazzjoni tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda f'dan il-qasam kif imfissra fil-Programm Dinji t'Azzjoni Dwar il-Persuni b'Diżabilità,
(ċ) u l-aħħar taqsima fiha r-rakkomandazzjonijiet li jridu jsiru f'pajjiżna biex din il-policy nazzjonali titwettaq.

(ii) Kindergarten Assistants għal Studenti b'Diżabilità

Il-Kummissjoni laqgħet bil-ferħ il-miżura pożittiva li studenti b'diżabilità li jattendu skejjel "normali" jkunu megħjuna minn kindergarten assistants. Din hi miżura progressiva u jekk użata sew ser tgħin qatigħ biex aktar persuni b'diżabilità jintegraw ruħhom fis-sistema edukattiva Maltija.

(iv) Action Research Programme

Il-Kummissjoni laqgħet bil-ferħ il-programm ta' Azzjoni u Riċerka li l-Università ta' Malta għamlet biex isiru magħrufa l-bżonnijiet ta' studenti li jattendu skejjel speċjali u ssir riċerka

dwarhom. Il-Kummissjoni ħeġġet biex dan it-tagħrif jissarraf bi programmi edukattivi għal dawn l-istudenti biex ikunu esegwiti mill-għalliema, il-ġenituri u professjonisti oħra.

(v) Trasport u Ikel fl-Iskejjel Speċjali

Il-Kummissjoni kellha diversi laqgħat u diskussjonijiet dwar dan is-suġġett. Il-Kummissjoni hi rappreżentata wkoll fuq bord li jimmoniterja dan l-ikel. Il-Kummissjoni temmen li sar progress sostanzjali f'dawn l-oqsma.

(vi) Skejjel Privati

Il-Kummissjoni kellha diversi taħditiet mal-awtorijtajiet tal-Iskejjel Privati tal-Knisja fir-rigward ta' l-integrazzjoni ta' studenti b'diżabilità. Saru taħditiet b'riferenza partikolari dwar l-formola tad-dħul, li kull ġenitur jiffirma, biex jitneħħa kull lingwaġġ li seta' jinftiehem bħala diskriminatorju kontra persuni b'diżabilità u anke diskussjonijiet biex studenti individwali jidħlu f'dawn l-iskejjel b'sapport edukattiv neċessarju.

(vii) Trasferiment ta' Persuni b'Diżabilità għaċ-Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum

Il-Kummissjoni laqqgħet lill-iskejjel speċjali u ċ-Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum biex flimkien jaħdmu programm ħalli t-trasferiment ta' dawn l-istudenti minn dawn l-iskejjel għal dawn iċ-Ċentri jsir b'mod faċli. Dan isir permezz ta' 'case conference' u anke ta' żjarat mill-istudenti flimkien ma' l-għalliema tagħhom fiċ-Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum.

2.3.5 Impjiegi

(i) Rapport tas-Sotto Kumitat

Il-Kummissjoni ddiskutiet u approvat rapport dettaljat mħejji mis-sotto kumitat dwar l-Impjiegi u ressqet dan is-sotto-kumitat lill-awtoritajiet konċernati.

(ii) Disablement Resettlement Unit

Waħda mill-ewwel miżuri li saret bħala riżultat ta' dan ir-rapport kien it-twaqqif tad-Disablement Resettlement Unit fid-Dipartiment tax-Xogħol, kif tesiġi l-Liġi tal-Impjiegi (Persuni b'Diżabilità) tal-1969. Din it-taqsima twaqqfet.

(iii) Korporazzjoni tax-Xogħol u Taħriġ

Mat-twaqqif ta' din il-korporazzjoni, il-Kummissjoni insistiet li d-Disablement Resettlement Unit ikun parti minnha. Din il-proposta għadha qed tkun studjata.

Il-Kummissjoni nsistiet li l-Korporazzjoni għandha tieħu ħsieb ukoll il-bżonnijiet ta' ħaddiema b'diżabilità kemm fit-taħriġ u anke fl-ippustjar għax-xogħol. Il-Korporazzjoni ħarrġet numru limitat ta' persuni b'diżabilità u ħadet ħsieb li l-uffiċċini tagħha fejn isir dan it-taħriġ ikun aċċessibbli għal kulħadd inkluż persuni b'diżabilità, anke dawk li jużaw is-siġġu tar-roti.

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(iv) Inċentivi għall-Industriji

Fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni, il-Liġi dwar l-Iżvilupp offriet inċentivi oħla lill-industrijalisti li joffru taħriġ u/jew impjieg lill-persuni li jkollhom diżabilità.

(v) Skema tal-Awżiljari

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet diversi rakkomandazzjonijiet biex persuni b'diżabilità severa li sabu diffikultà kbira biex isibu impjieg adattat għalihom, jingħataw impjieg temporanju ma' din l-iskema. Dawn ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet kollha ntlaqgħu u l-biċċa l-kbira ta' dawn il-persuni llum ngħataw impjieg permanenti mal-Gvern.

(vi) Laboratorji tal-Kompjuters

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet rakkomandazzjoni lill-Gvern biex tingħata għajnuna finanzjarja ħalli żewġ għaqdiet volontarji jifthu żewġ laboratorji tal-kompjuters biex fihom jitħarrġu u jaħdmu temporanjament persuni b'diżabilità. Dawn iż-żewġ għaqdiet huma ċ-Ċentru tar-Rijabilitazzjoni ta' Corradino u l-Muscular Dystrophy Group. L-ewwel laboratorju diġa' nfetaħ waqt li t-tieni mistenni li jinfetaħ fil-ġimgħat li ġejjin.

Fil-laboratorju tal-kompjuters ta' Corradino diġa' saru diversi korsijiet ta' kompjuters għal persuni b'diżabilità fiżika u tfal neqsin mis-smigħ. Hu ppjanat li jsiru korsijiet simili għall-persuni għomja u lezzjonijiet rimedjali fl-Ingliż, Matematika u Malti għall-persuni b'diżabilità u li għandhom bżonn dan is-servizz.

(vii) Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum

Il-Kummissjoni ħadmet mill-qrib biex iċ-Ċentri ta' Matul il-Jum tad-Dipartiment tal-Familja u l-Assistenza Soċjali jieħdu diversi miżuri ħalli jitjieb dan is-servizz. Fost dawn il-miżuri kien hemm:

(a) ir-reklutaġġ u t-taħriġ ta' careworkers ġodda full-time u part-time u ħaddiema oħra para-mediċi bħal ma huma assistenti soċjali, nersis u occupational therapists
(b) xiri ta' materjal edukattiv u awdjo viziv
(ċ) case conference minn tim ta' professjonisti biex persuni b'diżabilità jidħlu f'dawn iċ-ċentri
(d) estensjonijiet strutturali fiċ-Ċentri tal-Imtarfa u ta' Ħal Far
(e) tibdil fil-bini taċ-Ċentru ta' Santa Venera
(f) titjib fl-ikel ipprovdut f'dawn iċ-ċentri
(ġ) xiri ta' vetturi adattati għal persuni b'diżabilità.

Il-Kummissjoni ħadmet ukoll biex isir ftehim mal-knisja Għawdxija biex iċ-Ċentru ta' Matul il-Jum ta' Għawdex imur għaċ-Ċentru ta' l-Għaqda Ħandikappati Għawdxin li hemm f'Għajnsielem. Dan il-ftehim se jkun iffirmat fil-ġimgħat li ġejjin u l-persuni b'diżabilità mistennija li jmorru f'dan iċ-ċentru ftit wara.

2.3.6 Rikreazzjoni — Kultura — Reliġjon — Sports

(i) Eżenzjoni — Tnaqqis fuq Hlasijiet

Il-Kummissjoni talbet lil diversi organizzaturi ta' attivitajiet sportivi u kulturali biex persuni b'diżabilità li għandhom il-karta ta' l-Identità Speċjali jkollhom tnaqqis jew eżenzjoni fil-ħlas tad-dħul. Din it-talba ntlaqgħet fost l-oħrajn mid-Dipartiment tal-Mużewijiet, il-Kumitat tat-Tijatru Manoel, il-Gozo Channel Co., il-Malta Footbal Association, il-Malta Trade Fair Corporation u l-Marsa Racing Club.

(ii) Ħatra ta' Delegat ta' l-Arċisqof

Il-Kummissjoni laqgħet bil-ferħ il-ħatra ta' Dun Charles Abela bħala d-delegat ta' l-Arċisqof fil-ħidma pastorali u reliġjuża mal-persuni b'diżabilità. Il-Kummissjoni qed taħdem mill-qrib miegħu u fil-fatt Dun Charles hu wkoll membru tal-Kummissjoni.

(iii) Sehem fil-Paraolimpijadi għall-Persuni b'Diżabilità Mentali

Il-Kummissjoni tat l-appoġġ shiħ tagħha, inkluż dak finanzjarju biex grupp ta' għaxar atleti Maltin b'diżabilità mentali jipparteċipaw fil-Paraolimpijadi tal-Persuni b'diżabilità mentali li saru għalihom għall-ewwel darba f'Madrid. Għalkemm ir-riżultati kienu qawwija kontriena, l-esperjenza miksuba ser tgħinna biex attivitajiet sportivi għal dawn il-persuni jibqgħu jiġu organizzati matul is-sena kollha u għall-akbar għadd possibli ta' persuni b'diżabilità mentali.

2.3.7 Azzjoni fil-Komunità

(i) Il-Kummissjoni ħadmet fil-qrib ma' organizzazzjonijiet diversi biex tilħaq l-għanijiet tagħha fit-twettiq tal-Programm Dinji ta' Azzjoni. Fost dawn l-għaqdiet-organizzazzjonijiet insibu:

(a) Il-Federazzjoni tal-Għaqdiet għall-Handikappati
(b) L-Għaqda Ġenituri tat-Tfal Handikappati
(ċ) Muscular Dystrophy Group
(d) Fondi għar-Rijabilitazzjoni tal-Fiżikament Inkapaċitati
(e) Caritas (Malta)
(f) Għaqda Żgħażagħ Handikappati
(ġ) Għaqda Handikappati Għawdxin
(h) Gozo Association for the Deaf
(i) Health Education Unit
(j) Public Broadcasting Services
(k) L-istazzjonijiet privati kollha
(l) Il-gazzetti kollha
(m) Institute of Broadcasters
(n) Press Club
(o) AZAD
(p) ĠEM
(q) L-Università ta' Malta

(r) Il-partiti politiċi
(s) Il-GWU u s-CMTU
(t) Eden Foundation
(u) Down's Children Association

2.3.8 Taħriġ tal-Istaff

(i) Taħriġ għall-Għalliema

Il-fakultà tal-Edukazzjoni tal-Università ta' Malta organizzat kors għall-għalliema fl-edukazzjoni speċjali. L-Università stiednet lill-Kummissjoni biex tkun rappreżentanta fuq il-bord ta' Studji biex dan il-kors jerġa' jsir għat-tieni darba.

Il-Kummissjoni insistiet mal-awtoritajiet tal-Fakultà tal-Edukazzjoni tal-Università ta' Malta biex l-għalliema jkollhom aktar taħriġ dwar l-edukazzjoni speċjali mhux biss dik relatata mal-iskejjel speċjali imma wkoll dik li għandha x'taqsam mal-integrazzjoni ta' tfal bi bżonnijiet speċjali fl-iskejjel normali. Għal dan il-għan sar seminar mal-lecturers ta' din il-Fakultà. Bħala riżultat immedjat żdied credit fil-curriculum tal-kors ta' l-għalliema dwar dan il-qasam.

Il-Kummissjoni ħadmet biex għalliema ma' tfal neqsin mis-smigħ jitħarrġu f'dan il-qasam permezz ta' kors ta' tagħlim bid-distanza mal-Università ta' Birmingham. Għalkemm sar ħafna xogħol, jidher li għal issa dan ma jistax isir.

(ii) Institute of Health Care

Il-Kummissjoni laqgħet bil-ferħ it-twaqqif tal-Institute of Health Care għax fih rat dik l-organizzazzjoni li tista' tħarreġ staff li jaħdem f'dan il-qasam b'mod li titħeġġeġ il-filosofija ta' ħidma multi-dixxiplinajra. Il-Kummissjoni talbet li tkun rappreżentata fuq il-bord ta' dan l-Istitut. Din it-talba għadha qed tkun studjata.

(iii) Communication Therapists

Il-Kummissjoni insistiet li l-Università ta' Malta tibda kors għall-Communication Therapists (Speech Therapists) minħabba n-nuqqas kbir ta' dawn il-professjonijiet u minħabba l-importanza tal-kontribut tagħhom fl-iżvilupp ta' servizzi għall-persuni b'diżabilità.

(iv) Personnel taċ-Child Development Advisory Unit

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet diversi rakkomandazzjonijiet biex jitħarrġu professjonisti li jkunu eventwalment jistgħu jaħdmu fiċ-Child Development Advisory Unit. Fil-fatt id-Dipartiment tas-Saħħa, għal dan il-għan bagħat tabiba biex titħarreġ bħala Pedjatra fil-Komunità u bagħat ukoll Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist u Communication Therapist biex jitħarrġu flimkien fil-metodu Bobath. Id-Dipartiment tal-Edukazzjoni bagħat għalliema titħarreġ fl-edukazzjoni speċjali għal tfal ta' qabel jidħlu l-iskola.

(v) Sistema Makaton

Il-Kummissjoni flimkien mal-Gozo Association for the Deaf hadmet biex tintroduċi s-sistema MAKATON f'Malta. Din hi sistema ta' sinjali użati mill-persuni neqsin mis-smigħ biex tintuża ma' persuni b'diżabilità mentali. Għal dan il-għan il-Kummissjoni bagħtet żewġ studenti universitarji għal kors qasir l-Ingliterra.

2.3.9 Informazzjoni u Edukazzjoni Pubblika

(i) Ċentru ta' Riżorsi

Mat-twaqqif tagħha l-Kummissjoni bdiet tibni Ċentru ta' Riżorsi għal dawk kollha li jaħdmu jew huma involuti f'dan il-qasam. Fil-preżent dan iċ-Ċentru għandu:

Kotba	1181
Perjodiċi	50
Videos	153
Audio Cassettes	24
Għajnuniet Edukattivi	33
Persuni li jużaw dan iċ-Ċentru	111

Dan iċ-Ċentru li jinsab fl-uffiċini tal-Kummissjoni fiċ-Ċentru Ħidma Soċjali Santa Venera, jista' jagħmel użu minnu kulħadd.

(ii) Konferenzi u Seminars

Il-Kummissjoni matul dawn il-ħames snin organizzat diversi attivitajiet kemm fuq bażi nazzjonali kif ukoll fuq bażi sezzjonali biex tqajjem kuxjenza pubblika pożittiva dwar id-drittijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità f'pajjiżna.

Fl-1989, flimkien ma' l-Għaqda Ġenituri tat-Tfal Handikappati, organizzat Konferenza ta' jumejn bit-tema "Lejn il-Futur – Prinċipji u Policies". Fiha kien hemm il-parteċipazzjoni ta' diversi ministri tal-gvern, kapijiet ta' dipartimenti tal-gvern, rappreżentanti tal-unions, tal-għaqdiet volontarji li jaħdmu mal-persuni b'diżabilità u anke l-persuni b'diżabilità nfushom u l-familji tagħhom.

Sena wara, il-Kummissjoni u l-Università ta' Malta bil-kollaborazzjoni tal-International Academy of Pediatric Transdisciplinary Education organizzat konferenza internazzjonali bit-tema "Early Intervention – Care and Education – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach." F'din il-konferenza, barra kelliema Maltin kellna wkoll kelliema minn diversi pajjiżi barranin bħall-Isvezja, ir-Renju Unit, Iżrael, l-Indja, l-Italja, il-Ġermanja, l-Istati Uniti tal-Amerika, New Zealand, Franza u d-Danimarka.

Il-Kummissjoni fis-sena 1991 organizzat, bil-kooperazzjoni tal-AZAD u l-GEM, Konferenza Nazzjonali bit-tema "il-Proċess Politiku u l-Persuni b'Diżabilità".

"Il-Mass Meda u l-Persuni b'Diżabilità" kienet it-tema ta' seminar indirizzat lejn il-professjonisti

li jaħdmu fil-qasam tal-Media. Dan is-seminar organizzat mill-Kummissjoni fl-1991 sar bil-kooperazzjoni tal-Press Club u l-Institute of Broadcasters.

Fl-1992, f'Għeluq l-Għaxar Snin iddedikati mill-Ġnus Maqgħuda lill-Persuni b'Diżabilità, l-Kummissjoni organizzat konferenza nazzjonali oħra bit-tema "il-Persuni b'Diżabilità : L-Għaxar Snin li għaddew ... l-għaxar snin li jmiss ..." F'din il-konferenza saru rapporti, u analizi tagħhom, mid-dipartimenti prinċipali tal-Gvern, mill-Knisja, mill-Federazzjoni tal-Għaqdiet għall-Ħandikappati u mill-Kummissjoni nnifisha.

B'kollaborzzjoni mal-Kummissjoni, il-Fondazzjoni GEM organizzat forum pubbliku fil-beraħ bit-tema "Il-Ħandikappati hu WIEĦED MINNA" u Ċineforum bil-film "Gaby". Dawn l-attivitajiet it-tnejn saru fl-1989.

(iii) Pubblikazzjonijiet tal-Kummissjoni

Il-Kummissjoni, flimkien mal-Health Education Unit ħarġet direttorju bil-Malti, bl-Ingliz u f'forma audio, tal-Għaqdiet kollha li jaħdmu f'dan il-qasam.

Il-kontribuzzjonijiet kollha tal-konferenza "Lejn il-Futur" ġew ippubblikati bl-Ingliz u f'forma awdjo.

Il-Kummissjoni ppubblikat żewġ verżjonijiet tal-ktejjeb "Servizzi u Benefiċċji għall-Ħandikappati" li fih hemm tagħrif qasir dwar kif persuni b'diżabilità u l-familji tagħhom jistgħu jieħdu dawn is-servizzi u benefiċċji. Fil-preżent qed titħejja verżjoni tal-ktejjeb bl-Ingliz u t-tielet verżjoni bil-Malti. Verżjoni awdjo tat-tieni edizzjoni hi lesta wkoll.

Il-Kummissjoni għenet biex Caritas (Malta) tohroġ direttorju bl-isem "Għin Ruħek" li fih lista ta' għajnuniet li għandha għall-bejgħ. Dawn l-għajnuniet jgħinu biex persuni b'diżabilità jgħixu ħajja aktar indipendenti.

(iv) Newsletter Indaqs

Il-Kummissjoni tippubblika darbtejn fis-sena newsletter **Indaqs** li fiha jingħata tagħrif dwar ħidmet il-Kummissjoni lill-persuni b'diżabilità nfushom, il-familjari tagħhom u dawk kollha li jaħdmu f'dan il-qasam. Din in-newsletter għandha wkoll verżjoni awdjo. S'issa l-Kummissjoni ħarġet żewġ edizzjonijiet ta' Indaqs.

(v) Ġimgħat tal-Persuni B'Diżabilità

Il-Federazzjoni tal-Għaqdiet Volontarji għall-Ħandikappati kull sena torganizza ġimgħat ta' attivitajiet biex tqajjem kuxjenza pubblika favur id-drittijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità. Il-Kummissjoni tat l-appoġġ shih f'dawn l-attivitajiet u bħala kontribuzzjoni tagħha ppubblikat:

5 posters bit-temi – Min hu l-Ħandikappat
Il-Ħandikappat wieħed Minna
Opportunitajiet Indaqs
Aċċessibilità għal Kulħadd
Bi Dritt ... f'Kollox

Bookmark bit-tema 'Bi Dritt ... f'kollox'
u żewġ stikers bit-temi – Aċċessibilità għal kulħadd.
Opportunitajiet Indaqs

(vi) Pakkett Edukattiv

Fil-preżent il-Kummissjoni qiegħda tistampa pakkett edukattiv dwar tfal b'diżabilità li jista' jintuża minn għalliema fi skejjel "normali" biex ħekk titrawwem kuxjenza pożittiva lejn id-drittijiet tal-persuni b'diżabilità. Dan il-pakkett jikkonsisti f'sitt lezzjonijiet (introduzzjoni, persun b'diżabilità mentali, persuni b'diżabilità fiżika, persuni neqsin mis-smigħ, persuni għomja, u konklużjoni) flimkien ma' noti għall-għalliema. Dan il-pakkett ser ikun lest f'nofs April.

(vii) Stand fil-Fiera Internazzjonali ta' Malta

Bħala parti mill-attivitajiet f'għeluq l-għaxar snin iddedikati lill-persuni b'diżabilità mill-Ġnus Maqgħuda, il-Kummissjoni tellgħet stand fil-Fiera Internazzjonali tan-Naxxar bit-tema "Opportunitajiet Indaqs".

3.0 AZZJONI INTERNAZZJONALI

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3.1 UN International Disability Statistics Workshop

Fl-1989, il-Gvern Malti, permezz tal-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali, għen biex dan il-workshop indirizzat lejn pajjiżi tat-tielet dinja jsir f'Malta. F'dan il-workshop ippartečipaw madwar 40 delegat minn 20 pajjiż differenti u sar mill-Uffiċċju tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda għall-Koperazzjoni Teknika għall-Iżvilupp.

Bħala riżultat dirett ta' dan il-workshop, il-Kummissjoni kisbet għajnuna minn dan l-istess uffiċċju tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda biex tkun tista' tibni r-reġistru tal-persuni b'diżabilità Maltin u Għawdxin.

3.2 Partečipazzjoni Maltija f'Fora Internazzjonali

Malta ħadet sehem f'konferenza ministerjali li saret f'Montreal il-Kanada, li saret f'għeluq l-għaxar snin iddedikati lill-persuni b'diżabilità mill-Ġnus Maqgħuda. Malta kienet rappreżentata mis-Segretarju Parlamentari fil-Ministeru tal-Intern u Żvilupp Soċjali, l-Onor Dr A Mifsud Bonnici.

Wara, l-istess Segretarju attenda s-sessjoni tal-Assemblea Ġenerali tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda biex jiġu diskussi il-problemi tal-persuni b'diżabilità. Is-Segretarju kien akkumpanjat f'din l-Assemblea minn Connie Camilleri, persuna b'diżabilità, u Rosanne Fenech. Dawn iż-żewġ persuni telgħu New York f'isem il-Kummissjoni Nazzjonali.

Malta kienet rappreżentata ukoll f'Konferenza tal-Ministri Ewropej Responsabbli għai Policies dwar Persuni b'Diżabilità li saret f'Pariġi fl-1991. Għal din il-konferenza, Malta kienet rappreżentata mill-Onor Dr L Gonzi u s-Sur Fred Bezzina, chairman u segretarju eżekuttiv rispettivament tal-Kummissjoni.

Is-Sur Fred Bezzina attenda wkoll il-Kumitat 'ad hoc' tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda biex jifformola Regoli Standard għall-Opportunitajiet Indaqs għall-Persuni b'Diżabilità li sar fi Vjenna f'Mejju 1992.

3.3 Partečipazzjoni f'Seminars u Konferenzi minn Professjonisti Maltin

Il-Kummissjoni rrakkomandat lill-Ministeru tal-Iżvilupp Soċjali biex diversi professjonisti jippartečipaw f'seminars jew konferenzi internazzjonali. Fost dawn kien hemm:

(a) Il-Konferenza *Autism in Tomorrow's Europe* li saret f'The Hague, l-Olanda fl-1989 u li għaliha attendiet is-Sinjura Helen Mifsud Bonnici, ġenitur ta' tifla b'diżabilità.

(b) *Together for Children* li saret f'Londra, fl-1988 u li għaliha attendiet Dr Sarah Portelli M.D., membru tal-Kummissjoni.

(ċ) *Fourth International Down's Children Congress*, li sar f'Ġerusalem, Iżrael fl-1989 u li għalih attenda Dr Rene Eminyan M.D. ġenitur ta' tifla b'diżabilità u membru tal-Kummissjoni.

(d) Kors dwar *Mużika għal Persuni Għomja* li sar fl-1990 f'Londra u li għalih attenda is-Sur Tony Pace, mużiċista.

(e) Konferenza bit-tema *Early Years* li saret f'Rotterdam, l-Olanda, u li għaliha attenda s-Sur Marcel Pisani, ġenitur ta' żewġt itfal b'diżabilità u membru tal-Kummissjoni.

(f) *Polio and Independent Living*, konferenza li saret fl-1989 f'St Louis, l-Istati Uniti ta' l-Amerika u li għaliha attenda s-Sur John Micallef, persuna b'diżabilità u membru tal-Kummissjoni.

(ġ) *Id-Dritt għall-Iżvilupp Spiritwali tat-Tfal Handikappati* li saret f'Madrid, Spanja fl-1990 li għaliha attenda Dun Ġużepp Borg Micallef.

(h) *Il-Membri tiegħek huma l-Ġisem ta' Kristu – Persuni B'Diżabilità fis-Soċjetà* konferenza li saret fil-Vatikan, l-Italja fl-1992. Marru f'isem il-Kummissjoni, s-Sur Andrew Camilleri, persuna b'diżabilità u s-Sur Henry Verzin, ġenitur ta' tifel b'diżabilità.

3.4 Għajnuna Internazzjonali lill-Kummissjoni

Il-Kummissjoni kellha għajnuna mill-psikologu Yuri Sonn, mill-Isvezja, biex titwaqqaf il-Fondazzjoni għas-Servizzi tar-Respite Care. Din l-għajnuna saret possibbli permezz ta' fondi pprovduti mill-UNIDO tal-Ġnus Maqgħuda.

Il-Kummissjoni għamlet ukoll żjara reċiproka mal-AIAS Milano. F'din l-attività tliet periti Maltin, Dr A Torpiano, s-sur J Ellul Vincenti u s-sur L Buttigieg, flimkien mas-segretarju eżekuttiv tal-Kummissjoni s-Sur Fred Bezzina, ħadu sehem f'seminar organizzat mill-Komunità Ewropea bit-tema *Barriere Architettoniche*. Din iż-żjara kienet reċiprokata minn grupp ta' sitt persuni Taljani, tnejn minnhom persuni b'diżabilità, u żewġ periti li ġew Malta biex jaqsmu l-esperjenzi u l-ideat professjonali tagħhom magħna.

3.5 Konvenzjoni tal-ILO

Il-Gvern Mati, fuq rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni, irratifika l-konvenzjoni tal-ILO Nru 159 li titratta r-Rijabilitazzjoni Vokazzjonali u l-Impjieg tal-Persuni Diżabilità.